Memory

The memory unit is an essential component in any digital computer since it is needed for storing of programs and data.

• The memory unit that communicates directly with the CPU is called the main memory.

• Devices that provide backup storage are called auxiliary memory. Ex: Magnetic disks and tapes. They are used for storing system programs, large data files, and other backup information.

• Only programs and data currently needed by the processor reside in main memory. All other info. is stored in auxiliary memory and transferred to main memory when needed.

Memory Hierarchy

The memory unit is an essential component in any